



Parkroyal Life

Edition 84 - Autumn 1 2025

REMINDER – school closes for October Half Term on Thursday 23rd October at 3pm/3.15pm and reopens on Monday 3rd November at 8.45am.

Picture News stories are discussed in Mrs Beaumont's Monday morning Assemblies. Picture News shares current issues with our pupils and helps to make British Values relevant and meaningful and develop links between personal, school and community values.

These are the following questions we have explored this half term:



- **What do you think makes something a wonder of the world?**
 - In a recent survey 600 adults and 400 children were asked to name the everyday things around them that they feel are awe inspiring
- **What makes a building special?**
 - A church in Kiruna, one of Sweden's largest wooden buildings, has been moved to new location due to the ground not being stable where it used to stand.
- **Why do we vote?**
 - The voting age for the general election will soon be reduced to 16yrs.
- **Can sport bring people closer together?**
 - A running charity, Parkrun, has announced a new project called Parkrun Primary.
- **What can we learn from people who prove others wrong?**
 - Ellie Goldstein, has been announced a contestant on 'Strictly Come Dancing. She is the first person with Downs Syndrome to take part in the series.
- **What makes a good peacekeeper?**
 - This year marks the 80th anniversary of the United Nations
- **Should everyone have an ID card?**
 - What does identification mean?



Key Dates - Oct/Nov/Dec

23rd October	School closes for October half term 3pm/3.15pm
24th October	Trust training day - school closed to pupils
3rd November	School reopens for Autumn term 2 8.45am
11th November	Y6 to Chester Zoo all day
17th November	3EM to Silk Museum all day
18th November	3PS to Silk Museum all day
21st November	Non-uniform day for Xmas hamper donations
1st December	East Cheshire Hospice Jingle Bell Jog - details to follow
2nd December	Fluenz nasal spray immunisation - whole school
19th December	School closes for Christmas holidays - 1.30pm

Christmas celebration timetable

Details of our Christmas celebrations and productions will be shared with parents and carers after half term.

Updated term dates

Our final INSET training dates for 2025-26 are included in the dates list on page 18 of this newsletter.

Summer Reading Challenge

At the start of the Summer holidays, Macclesfield Library launched their annual Summer Reading Challenge themed 'Story Garden' Children were tasked with reading 6 books in 6 weeks and those who completed it, received a certificate and a medal.

A **HUGE** well done to all the children from our school who took part this year. There were 790 children from Macclesfield sign up in total, which is amazing. 82 of those children were from Parkroyal, making us the top participating school this year!



Reception

We are so proud of how well the Reception children have settled this half term. They have become familiar with new routines, made new friends and had lots of fun!



This half term we have been learning about ourselves. We have talked about our families and our likes and dislikes. We have created self-portraits and celebrated our differences.



All About Me



We have learnt all about harvest and the process involved in getting food from the field to plate. We have talked about healthy eating choices, explored and tasted seasonal vegetables and even made our own super veggies and hedgehog bread!

Harvest

We have retold the story of The Little Red Hen using puppets and created our own story map with actions for the different words. We performed the story so well in our Harvest Assembly! We have also been practising writing initial sounds and CVC words based on our favourite characters from the story.



Talk for Writing



We have learnt about the Zones of Regulation and the emotions associated with each one. Golden Bear has also taught us about our right to be ourselves, to learn, to be safe and to relax and play. We have all painted our own Golden Bear to add to our class charter, reminding us of our rights.

Our Rights and Zones of Regulation

Year One



Art Project

We have looked at the art of **Howard Arkley** this half term. We liked how he made the houses super colourful and it inspired us to make relief prints of our own houses on polystyrene tiles.. We chose bright colours to roll on then pressed the paper onto the tile to make a print.



Open the Book

Year 1 are very lucky to have the storytelling group, **Open the Book** each week to support our RE lessons.. They tell stories from the Old and New testaments and sometimes choose children (and adults!) to help tell the story!



Reading for Pleasure is one of our favourite things to do in year 1!

In year **Year Two** this half term...



In History, Year 2 have been learning about the importance of the silk industry to Macclesfield over the past 300 years. We visited the Silk Museum in Macclesfield to learn about how silk is made and where it comes from. We explored Paradise Mill on a guided tour, practiced our weaving skills and discovered historical silk artifacts. We had the best day!



Silk Museum



As part of our Design Technology unit this half term, we have been designing, making and evaluating our own pouch, linked to the story of 'The Way Home for Wilf'. We used running stitch to sew our felt together and to also embroider a pattern on it, linked to what Wilf the Wolf might like. We demonstrated incredible perseverance when challenges arose!



Making pouches

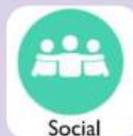


Year 2 have been learning about the habitat/microhabitat of woodlice. We were so lucky to have a live science lesson with Steve Backshall. He presented to us from in a forest in the south of England and spoke to us about the habitats in a forest. He told us about the animals that live there and why they live there. It was wonderful to see a real life scientist talking to us.



Live Science lesson

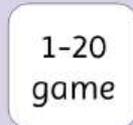
As a whole school we are beginning our oracy journey with being able to communicate effectively. We have been playing 4 games that link to the different sections of speaking. Maybe something to play at the dinner table...



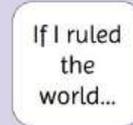
Social



Cognitive



1-20
game



If I ruled
the
world...



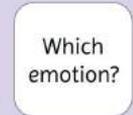
Linguistic



Physical



Articulate



Which
emotion?

Oracy

Year Three

DT - Seasonal Tart

In DT, we designed and made a **nutritious tart** using seasonal ingredients. We followed a recipe to make the pastry and carefully selected our choice of fruits or vegetables. We used a range of techniques such as cutting, grating, mixing, spreading and kneading. It was delicious!



The children had a fabulous time learning how to **pitch** and **putt** from a golf professional. The Ryder Cup is in good hands for the future as Year 3 achieved lots of holes in one!



PE - Tri Golf

Science - Rocks

In Science, we have been learning about how **different rocks are formed**. We then made our very own sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks using chocolate to see this process up close!



We started this term by discovering a cave! Soon after, we found out we would be reading **Blue John**. We have loved using role play to act out conversations and imagining ourselves dancing and slithering in the caves. Of course, we have also enjoyed lots of reading for pleasure too!



Reading - Blue John

Year Four

Art Project

This term Parkroyal have been focusing their art lessons linked to one of the Articles from the Rights Respecting Schools.

Year 4 have studied the artist John Constable and have explored the techniques to landscape paintings.

With a focus on Article 31 'rest, play, culture and arts' we took a trip to South Park and explored the lovely views and nature we have on our doorstep.

We then created our final pieces inspired by the work of John Constable and our trip to South Park to create a watercolor landscape picture.



PE

In PE we have been focusing on gymnastics, arching and bridging and performing a variety of gymnastics skills on each apparatus. We had fun exploring weaving in and out of Big Blue, using the springboard correctly and balancing on the beams.

Our outdoor PE this half term has been exploring attacking and defending in hockey. We've learnt different ways to dribble, pass and mark our opponents!

Reading

We have explored and read the book Cloud Tea Monkeys. We started by exploring a teabag using all our senses. We opened up a teabag to see what was inside.

We have linked the book to our writing units and wrote a diary as if we were Tashi from the story and wrote a narrative of her thoughts and feelings.



Times Tables

This half term we have worked hard consolidating our accuracy and recall of our 2,4,5 and 10 times tables.

Please continue practising your times tables on TTRS over half term.



In Year Five, this term...

Gareth Cowlin Comics

Year 5 have had the wonderful Mr Cowlin into school this half term - Mr Cowlin works at Staffordshire University as a lecturer on the Cartoon and Comic Arts course. For several years now, Mr Cowlin has worked with Parkroyal to support the students at the university with designs and stories to create for part of their course and also for the children at Parkroyal to have their comic character brought to life. This years theme was based around characters that live in the forest to link with our geography learning. We cannot wait to see the children's comic characters finished and in a whole class comic book!



Art Project

This half term we have worked on a whole school Rights Respecting Arts Project. Year 5 have studied the artist Mark Rothko and alongside looking at Article 8 'Identity' we have produced artwork inspired by both. We improved our skills of using brush and also sketching!

Forest School

This half term Year 5 have been taking part in whole class Forest School sessions. We have enjoyed learning new things about each other and learning new skills. It has given the children chance to work collaboratively with different children and get to know each other better. We have all enjoyed learning outside of the classroom and developing our social skills.

Trip to Macclesfield Forest

Year 5 had the exciting opportunity of venturing to Macclesfield Forest for our first trip this year as part of our Geography learning. We scoured the forest for its different flora and fauna to create our own biodiversity study as well as looking at different types of trees and their properties. Lastly, we enjoyed using our environment to create our own pieces of artwork. It was a very enjoyable day all round!



Year 6

Banksy Art Project

As part of our school wide Art project celebrating being a Rights Respecting School, Year Six were tasked with the challenge of creating a piece of work inspired by the Street Artist Banksy. Their work focuses on the use of stencils and has shown what a creative bunch they are.



Forest School

This term we have taken part in whole class Forest School sessions. This has offered a fantastic opportunity for both classes to work collaboratively and learn new skills.

Science workshops at Macclesfield Academy

Year Six have been lucky enough to take part in some fantastic Science Workshops at Macclesfield Academy. This has given the children the opportunity to engage in some fun scientific experiments but also to get to grips with what it is like to work in a laboratory.



Swimming

6UW have made brilliant progress in their swimming proficiency this term and have really enjoyed their weekly lessons. It has been great to see the children supporting one another in improving at this crucial life skill. 6RJ are looking forward to starting their swimming lessons after Christmas.

Coming up next term...

Our exciting trip to Chester Zoo, online workshops with World famous children's author Michael Rosen ... and much more!

Our Class Charters

A Class Charter is a shared agreement between our pupils and staff that outlines how everyone will respect and uphold children's rights in the classroom, based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).



It helps create a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment where every child's voice is valued. By linking rights to everyday behaviour and responsibilities, class charters support positive relationships and empower pupils to take ownership of their actions and learning.



Meet our new

Digital Leaders

2025/26

We have recently appointed 21 new Digital Leaders to support our computing lessons and other activities using connected devices. The Digital Leaders help to manage our ever-expanding chromebook resource, together with our recently-renewed collection of tablets, which are most commonly used to support our daily practise in Times Tables Rock Stars. Their work will be vital to our successful lessons this year.



Head of Houses

This half term our Year 6 pupils were invited to apply to represent their House throughout the year. The pupils had to submit a letter of application telling us why they would like the role, demonstrating what qualities they have to lead and share their interests that would support the role in school. They were then invited to a short interview. 12 of our Year 6 pupils were awarded the role - congratulations to them all.

The Aspire Educational Trust has a Trust Pupil Council to represent the views and opinions of the pupils across the Trust and act as a vehicle for the voice of the pupils to the Senior Leadership Team. Each school is represented by two children from either Year 5 or Year 6. Our two pupils are in Year 6 and have already attended one meeting with the CEO of the Trust - Mr Simpson. Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) says that children and young people should have a say in decisions that affect their lives. A school council can provide a meaningful way in which pupils can voice their opinions and have their views taken into account in decisions that impact upon them.



Meet our Trust Ambassadors



Zones of Regulation



Supporting our pupils' emotional wellbeing is central to our school's ethos and this term Parkroyal has introduced the '*Zones of Regulation*' as a whole-school approach to support children's emotional development and wellbeing. Each Newsletter we will share updates and information about this approach and how you can support your child/ren.

The Zones of Regulation is a framework designed to help children gain a better understanding of their emotions, develop self-regulation skills, and learn strategies to manage their feelings in a healthy and productive way. It uses four colour-coded "zones" to represent different states of alertness and emotions:

Blue Zone – low states of alertness (e.g., sad, tired, bored, sick)

Green Zone – calm, focused, and ready to learn

Yellow Zone – heightened alertness (e.g., excited, worried, silly, frustrated)

Red Zone – extremely heightened states (e.g., anger, panic, rage)

Children will be taught to recognise which "zone" they are in, understand that it's normal to move between zones throughout the day, and learn strategies to help themselves return to a zone that supports learning and positive behaviour.

How can you support your child at home with the approach? _____

We encourage you to talk to your child about the Zones and ask them what they're learning.

Pastoral Support for parents and carers

Visyon offer a number of in person and online workshops aimed at providing information and advice to parents and carers to help you support your child with understanding their emotions and wellbeing.

There will be an in person self-harm awareness workshop held at Visyon in Congleton on Wednesday 5 November, 10:00am – 12:00pm. This session will provide information and support for parents who are concerned about self-harm for their child. Link:

<https://www.visyon.org.uk/parentworkshops>

On 19th November there will be a live webinar from 6pm - 7.30pm on the subject of supporting a young person with anxiety. To sign up please click on the link below

<https://www.visyon.org.uk/parentwebinars>



The Government has this week launched the Best Start in Life campaign, aimed at helping parents navigate online misinformation about early childhood development. The initiative brings together NHS and government-backed guidance.

To access this information please click on the following link

[BestStartInLife](https://www.beststartinlife.org.uk/)

Just Drop-In



Just Drop-In is a registered charity that supports children and young people aged 11-25 who live in the north of Cheshire East (Macclesfield, Bollington, Wilmslow, Knutsford and Poynton.) Their expertise and operating model is embedded in Early Help and Prevention. All of their services are free of charge.

They are there to help and support children and young people who are finding life hard, to improve their mental health and wellbeing and help them to find their feet.

<https://www.justdropin.co.uk/resources-for-parents-and-young-people/>

Football

The 25/26 football season has started; with league fixtures for our A and B teams and two tournaments.

League Fixture: Prestbury (Home) A team

If ever a match could suit the expression 'smash and grab', this was it! Prestbury dominated the game for long periods, controlling the ball and the possession effectively. Parkroyal could only sit tight and defend and we found ourselves 0-1 down. But thanks to an unfortunate goalkeeper error from the away team with two minutes on the clock, Parkroyal were able to snatch a draw from the jaws of defeat!

League Fixture: Prestbury (Home) B team

The B team suffered a painful start to their league campaign. Resoundingly beaten 1-4 by a strong and resolute Prestbury team. Despite this tricky experience, several members of the Parkroyal team showed perseverance and resilience to the end - something that was acknowledged by the Prestbury manager.

King's Football Tournament

Attending the annual King's Football Tournament, our football team experienced a mixed set of results - but demonstrated many of our Parkroyal Positive Attitudes throughout. By the end of the afternoon our record was won 2, drew 1 and lost 2 - including losing to King's School in the semi-final of the Shield competition.

MSSP Football tournament

Our football team ventured to Tytherington High School where they played in a round robin tournament. They won 1, drew 1 and lost 1, and came away with a shiny silver medal!



School Games Makers

Congratulations to the following Year 6's who were selected for the role of School Games Makers. They will be working closely with Mr Utteridge and Miss Dolton to ensure the successful delivery of PE across the school.

Jack	Alfie
Saskia	Arthur
Heidi	Scarlett
Tyren	Louie
Lottie	Osian



School Sports Leaders

Congratulations to the following Year 6's who were selected for the role of School Sports Leads. These children will work closely with Mr Utteridge, Miss Dolton and our School Games Makers to support PE and playtime games for the younger children.

Emilie	Isaac
Alfie	Evie-Lilly
Jannat	Oscar
Vinnie	Cleo
Phoebe	



School Games - Sports Leadership event

Our School Games Makers attended a workshop at Wilmslow High School, organised by our School Games Officer. They learnt the importance of leadership as well as defined what a leader looks like. They left the session with so many ideas and we can't wait to work with them as they implement these throughout school. They were also kindly gifted a whistle, to support them in their newly appointed roles.



Tri-Golf

In September we invited Stu Warren, a professional golfer, into our school for a 2 day workshop. Stu worked with all pupils from Reception to Year 6 and he delivered a fun and exciting introduction to golf. The children really enjoyed the golf workshops and it was great to see so many 'hole in ones!'



Netball

Our after school netball club had an exciting session with Nikki from Macclesfield Pinks Netball Club. Nikki came in and delivered a session focusing on passing and footwork! The children learnt lots and we can't wait to see them put it into practise when the netball league kicks off!



Parkrun



Parkroyal have officially become a Parkrun Primary School! We had an exciting launch and after half term we have a special guest coming in to chat with us about all things Parkrun.

You can register for parkrun for free here - www.parkrun.org.uk/register/ or scan the QR code. Once you have registered, you will be provided with a barcode to take with you to the Primary Parkrun.

Finally you can join the school parkrun group! As a school community, the **#TeamParkroyal** is aiming to complete **500** junior parkruns or 5k parkruns by the end of the school year! Once you have registered, joining the Group is easy:

1. Log back into your profile
2. Search for your group - **#TeamParkroyal**
3. When the group appears, select it and click join



OCTOBER CAMP
GAWSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

27TH-30TH OCTOBER | 8:30AM-3PM
REGISTER VIA SOKATRaining.CO.UK

AUTUMN OF FUN HALF TERM CAMP 2025

5 FULL DAYS OF FUN MULTI-SPORTS & GAMES

MONDAY 27th TILL FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER
@ LIFESTYLE FITNESS, MACCLESFIELD COLLEGE, SK11 8LF

£15 PER DAY 9AM - 4PM OR
£70 FOR THE FULL WEEK

£2.50 EACH FOR EARLY DROP OFF &
LATER PICK UP 8:30 AM & 4:30PM

AGES 4 TO 13 (BOYS & GIRLS) 3YR OLDS
WITH OLDER SIBLINGS ONLY

DROP AN EMAIL TO
LEE.MFC-CST@OUTLOOK.COM OR WHATSAPP
07889404573 TO BOOK

School Term Dates 2025-26

Start of school year	School reopens on Wednesday 3rd September 2025 8.35am
	School will be closed to pupils on the following dates:
October Half Term (including Trust training day)	SCHOOL CLOSED - Friday 24th October 2025 - Friday 31st October 2025
Christmas holiday	School will close at 1.15pm on Friday 19th December 2025
	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 22nd December 2025 - Friday 2nd January 2026
INSET	SCHOOL CLOSED - Friday 16th January 2026
February Half Term (including INSET)	SCHOOL CLOSED - Friday 13th February 2026 - Friday 20th February 2026
Easter holiday	School will close at 1.15pm on Friday 27th March 2026
	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 30th March 2026 - Friday 10th April 2026
May Day	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 4th May 2026
May Half Term	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 25th May 2026 - Friday 29th May 2026
End of school year	School will close at 1.15pm on Friday 17th July 2026
Summer holiday (including INSET)	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 20th July 2026 - Monday 31st August 2026
<p>Provisional staff INSET training days (SCHOOL CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS) Monday 1st September 2025, Tuesday 2nd September 2025, Friday 24th October 2025 (Trust training), Friday 16th January 2026, Friday 13th February 2026, Monday 20th July 2026</p>	
PLEASE ENSURE ALL FAMILY HOLIDAYS ARE BOOKED OUTSIDE OF THESE TERM DATES.	

Term Time Absence

Please may we remind all parents and carers that Headteachers may only grant leave of absence in term time **in exceptional circumstances**. All requests for absence **MUST** be put in writing to the Headteacher at least one month before the required date. If your request is not agreed it will be marked as unauthorised.

Please note that 10 or more unauthorised sessions of absence (i.e. 5 days) may result in the issue of a Fixed Penalty Notice

NEW FROM
19/8/24

Please refer to the new parent/carers guidance regarding changes to Fixed Penalty Notices

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Christmas holiday	School will close at 1.15pm on Friday 18th December 2026
	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 21st December 2026 - Friday 1st January 2027
February Half Term	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 15th February 2027 - Friday 19th February 2027
Easter holiday	School will close at 1.15pm on Thursday 25th March 2027
	SCHOOL CLOSED - Friday 26th March 2027 - Friday 9th April 2027
May Day	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 3rd May 2027
May Half Term	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 31st May 2027 - Friday 4th June 2027
End of school year	School will close at 1.15pm on Wednesday 21st July 2027
Summer holiday	SCHOOL CLOSED - Thursday 22nd July 2027 - Tuesday 31st August 2027
<p>Provisional staff training days (SCHOOL CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS) Tuesday 1st September 2026, Wednesday 2nd September 2026, Friday 23rd October 2026 (Trust training), 3 further dates to be arranged</p>	
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Fixed Penalty Notices – New Guidance for Parents and Carers

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force on 19 August 2024.

Penalty Notices will be issued for:

Term time leave: Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days.

However, we retain the discretion to issue a Penalty Notice before the threshold is met. For example, where parents are deliberately avoiding the national threshold by taking several term time holidays below the penalty thresholds i.e. 3 days followed by a further 2 days later in the academic year.

10 Sessions of Unauthorised absence in a rolling 10 week period: A Penalty Notices may be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absences in a 10 week period. Unauthorised absences include being late after registers have closed on 10 or more occasions.

Per Parent/Per Child

Penalty Notice fines will continue to be issued per parent per child. For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular school attendance the fine will be charged at:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days of the issue, reducing to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

(Unpaid penalty notices may result in a parental prosecution)

Second Offence

Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second penalty notice to the same parent for the same pupil within 3 years of the first penalty notice, for either term time leave or irregular attendance the second penalty notice will be charged at:

£160 if paid within 28 days. (Unpaid penalty notices may result in a parental prosecution)

Third Offence

On the third time that an offence is committed within 3 years of the first penalty notice for either a term time leave or irregular attendance a penalty notice will not be issued.

The case may proceed to Parental Prosecution under the Single Justice Procedure. If found guilty of the offence of 'Failure to send a child to school' the Magistrates can impose a fine up to £1000 or legal proceedings under Section 444 (1a) can include a fine of up to £2500.